



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2010

No. 97

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our provider, we come to You in our weakness, seeking Your mercy and help. Give us this day the mercy and grace of Your love that we may become all You desire us to be. Empower our lawmakers to accept Your guidance, cherish Your precepts, and obey Your word. Keep them walking in the way everlasting. Strengthen them so to run that they may reach their goal. Enable them so to strive that they may win the victor's crown. Prepare them so to keep the faith that they may endure to the very end.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 25, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, a Senator from the State of Oregon, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MERKLEY thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 5297, the small business jobs bill. There will be no rollcall votes today. Senators should expect the next votes to occur Monday around 5:30.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 5481 AND H.R. 5551

Mr. REID. I have been told there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5481) to give subpoena power to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling.

A bill (H.R. 5551) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to make a certification when making purchases under the Small Business Lending Fund Program.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DISAPPOINTED AMERICANS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today there are about 1 million people in America who are terribly disappointed at what took place yesterday—1 million people. That is 1 million in one category. There are hundreds and hundreds of thousands of others who are disappointed because of different things done to them yesterday as a result of the Republicans not supporting legislation. It was fully paid for.

The statements made by Republicans after this bill was rejected by them are simply without any fact.

There were efforts made to work with Republicans. We cut the size of the bill. We paid even for things we had never paid for before. We decided to do that in an effort to get help for millions of Americans.

One of the things we paid for was something called FMAP, which is money we would direct to the States that they could use for police, fire, teachers, nurses—to stop layoffs from taking place there. That was rejected.

There are numerous editorials around the country rejecting what the Republicans did yesterday, and there are headlines in virtually every newspaper of America:

LA Times: "Senate GOP Blocks Jobless Aid Extension."

Business Week: "Republicans Thwart Bill With Unemployment Aid, Buyout Tax Boost."

Boston Globe: "Filibuster Halts Bill Boosting Jobless Benefits, Aid to States."

McClatchy Newspapers: "GOP Blocks Jobless-Benefit Extension Breaks."

USA TODAY: "Senate GOP Again Blocks Bill Extending Jobless Benefits, Tax Breaks."

Those tax breaks were for middle-class Americans.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S5459